

Capitol Punishment . . . By Art Buchwald

The FBI in Peace and War

PRESIDENT Johnson's decision to order the FBI into the Dominican Republic many people here in Washington. One of the reasons he did it, according to some sources, was to find McBundy, his White House aide, who had been missing since the teach-in debate in Washington a few weeks ago.



Buchwald

The last seen of Mr. Bundy he was discussing with the loyalist and rebel factions some solution to the problem in Santo Domingo. Bundy's final words before he disappeared into the jungle were to Gen. Imbert of the junta forces, and he was quoted as saying to the General, "Well if you won't agree on a coalition government, would you consider becoming the 51st state?"

The Justice Department has denied that the FBI was sent to the Dominican Republic just to find Bundy.

Rumor has it that it is being sent to infiltrate the CIA. The CIA, as you remember, was said to have warned the United States of a Communist takeover in the Dominican Republic. When it was impossible to produce any of the Communists, President Johnson got very mad and said the FBI could have produced a dozen Communists on a half-hour's notice. Most of them would have been FBI informers, but they still would have been Communists.

So President Johnson called up J. Edgar Hoover and said, "Get me some Communists in the Dominican Republic, and pronto."

Mr. Hoover offered to go himself, but the President

vetoed the idea, and said, "That's how Bundy got away and Ah don't plan to let it happen again."

According to reports, the FBI will have two functions. One will be to investigate the Communist menace and the second will be to clear possible candidates for a future coalition government, a job that in the past has been left to each country in the hemisphere.

It is a new function for the FBI and it is not too far-fetched to predict that some day all Latin American governments will have to have FBI clearances before they can rule in their own lands.

The real problem facing the FBI in the Dominican Republic is what do you do with the CIA. We must assume the CIA has infiltrated the left wing in Santo Domingo, and with the funds at its disposal probably controls it. What will happen when the FBI informers move in with their funds? You will have two faction fighting for power, and neither side will know the other is also working for the United States.

They may even wind up battling in the streets of Santo Domingo, which would put the U.S. Marines in a heck of a spot. Whom should they fire on — the CIA informers or the FBI undercover agents?

There is also a morale factor to be considered. If the FBI digs up more Communists than the CIA, it will look very bad for the Central Intelligence Agency, and it may have to bring in some Castro Communists from Cuba to show it is on the ball. If the CIA produces more Communists than the FBI, the FBI may be forced to bring in Communists from the University of California.

The only solution, as far as I can see, is to send Bun-

dy back to the Dominican Republic to negotiate a coalition Secret Service made up half of CIA agents and half of agents from the FBI.

Otherwise you may have a confusing situation in the Dominican Republic, and nobody wants that.

© 1965, Publishers Newspaper Syndicate